

Attachment 1: Proposed Farm and Ranch Grant Award Recipients FY 2010/11 (FR42 cycle)

Imperial County – Partial Reimbursement Grant

Grant Funds Recommended for Approval: \$122,739

Number of Sites: 4

Three agriculturally zoned active illegal disposal sites have been dumped on for years and are in need of cleanup. Two of the sites are fallow farmland, and the third is used for stacking hay from surrounding agricultural properties. Tires, municipal solid waste, electronic components, green waste and over eight tons of concrete are strewn across the properties. The waste is unsightly, is an attractive nuisance, and has the potential to wash into the nearby river which discharges into the Salton Sea. A fourth site, actively used for agricultural purposes and located along the New River, was cleaned up in July of 2010 and the owner is now asking for reimbursement of his expenditures. “No dumping” signs will be posted and educational flyers will be produced to help prevent future dumping.

Solano Resource Conservation District

Grant Funds Recommended for Approval: \$ 36,456

Number of Sites: 2

One hundred fifteen cubic yards of illegally dumped trash, tires and concrete are spread over two parcels in Solano County, one privately owned and one owned by the County of Solano. Both sites are zoned for agricultural use, with one site being contiguous with commercial almond orchards and the second having an almond orchard and being used for raising sheep. The waste has the potential to degrade the almond crop and Putah Creek, where anadromous fish spawn, and is harmful to the livestock.

Sutter County Resource Conservation District

Grant Funds Recommended for Approval: \$ 25,587

Number of Sites: 2

Two contiguous parcels used for growing prunes in rural Sutter County are strewn with more than three tons of solid waste, tires and construction debris. The owner has been cleaning up the waste himself for many years and can no longer afford to do so. The presence of the waste encourages more dumping, is a threat to the health of the orchard and the farmers, and impedes the use of equipment to tend to the trees. Upon cleanup, “no dumping” signs will be posted and gates and fencing will be erected to discourage future dumping.

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District

Grant Funds Recommended for Approval: \$ 48,157

Number of Sites: 1

Over 3,400 tires were illegally disposed onto a privately owned parcel in rural Shasta County. The 86 acre parcel is zoned for agriculture and used for grazing cattle. The tires are a breeding ground for mosquitoes, increasing the threat of West Nile Virus, and may catch fire, and runoff from the site can impact Bear Creek, a salmon and steelhead spawning fishery. A sign will be posted after cleanup and since the property has now been fenced it is expected that illegal dumping will cease to be a concern. While the tires were already on the property at the time of purchase by the current owner, he has attested that at the time he was unaware of their presence.

ESTIMATED COST: There is currently \$706,818 in the fund. If the proposed grants are approved, \$473,879 will remain in the fund for the 2010/11 fiscal year.